



Standing on boats and holding banners that bear their demands, locals whose livelihood depend on the Pashur river, form a human chain on the occasion of International Day for Action for Rivers yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

‘Restore rivers of Sundarbans’



PHOTO: COLLECTED

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

“Rivers and canals in the Sundarbans region are plagued by unplanned industrialisation, anti-environmental development activities, encroachment and pollution... Environmental and people-friendly development plans have to be adopted while safeguarding their flow.”

This was stated by speakers yesterday at a rally organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (Bapa), Waterkeepers Bangladesh, Pashur River Waterkeeper and Jaba Nari Dal on the occasion of International Day of Action for Rivers in Mongla on the bank of Pasur river.

They also demanded protection of rivers and canals from pollution.

Speakers also said biodiversity of the Sundarbans is under threat due to the constant

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‘Bring river offenders to book’

Speakers call for empowering river commission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

River activists yesterday at an event demanded that National River Conservation Commission (NRCC) is given the executive power to protect country's rivers, which are disappearing fast due to grabbing, wrong demarcations and industrial pollution.

They said this at a programme organised on the occasion of International Day for Action for Rivers by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) at Bosila in the capital. Around 30 organisations took part in the event.

Muzibor Rahman Howlader, former chairman of NRCC, said only 2,800 kilometres of river route exist out of 35,000 kilometres.

“NRCC must be empowered with executive power to save rivers. There are laws regarding the protection of the rivers but there are also hurdles in executing those laws. The projects to develop rivers are not also properly implemented,” he alleged.

He said the country needs

industrialisation for development, but rivers should not be destroyed.

“We don't need industries that don't comply with environmental guideline. The rivers are on the verge of elimination due to interest of some people. River offenders must be brought to book to set example so that none can even think of harming the waterbodies”, he said.

Presiding over the meeting, Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bapa, said conservation of rivers are the precondition for survival of a country.

“Wrong demarcations by the district administrations allowed the river grabbers to encroach those legally. Many residential areas were developed encroaching the Buriganga, Balu, Shitalakhya and Turag rivers”, he said.

Mihir Biswas, coordinator of Save the Buriganga River Campaign; Alamgir Kabir, chief coordinator of Green Voice; Ibnul Sayed Rana, chairman of Nirapad Development Foundation; Sohaj Mohajan, chief executive of Clean River, Bangladesh, were present at the program, among others.

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Muzibor Rahman Howlader
former chairman of NRCC

Youth to die for rape, murder of 12-yr-old girl

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A Tangail court yesterday sentenced a youth to death for killing an adolescent girl after raping her in Sadar upazila of the district in 2020. Judge Khaleda Yasmin of Tangail Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal gave the order, said court inspector Tanvir Ahmed.

The convict is Mazedur Rahman (26), son of Anwar Hossain of Mogra union in Tangail Sadar upazila, he said. Quoting the case statement, Ali Ahmed, special public prosecutor of the Tribunal, said Mazedur raped Shanta Akhter (12), daughter of Sadek Ali of the same village on October 9, 2020.

Shanta told Mazedur after she was raped that she would tell her parents about the incident.

Mazedur then strangled Shanta to death and hid her body in a nearby bush.

Shanta's parents, on the other hand, were searching for her when a local boy informed them that he had seen Shanta and Mazedur going towards a sugarcane field.

They then went to the location and recovered her body from the bush.

On the same day, Shanta's elder brother Sani Alam filed a case against Mazedur with Tangail Sadar Police Station. Mazedur was later arrested by police and he confessed to the crime. He gave a confessional statement to Judicial Magistrate Court under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

War criminals' houses to be considered 'abandoned'

Cabinet okays provision; govt can use the land or give it to freedom fighters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet yesterday gave the final approval to the draft of Abandoned Houses (Supplementary Provisions) Act, 2022, keeping a provision that the confiscated properties of a convicted war criminal would be treated as abandoned assets.

The approval came from the cabinet's meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who joined it virtually from her official residence Gono Bhaban.

“If anyone is convicted in a war criminal case and the court seizes his or her properties, these will be considered as abandoned properties under the proposed law,” said Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam yesterday at a briefing

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Memo No. 25.36.8700.140.14.050.22/1385 Dated: 13/03/2022

Invitation for e-Tender e-Tender Notice (Open Tendering Method)

SL No.	Tender/ Proposal ID	Description	Last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1	671907	Construction of Office cum Training Centre (Civil, Sanitary, Ancillary & Electro-Mechanical Works) 01 (One) at Satkhira District under the project Enhancement of agricultural Marketing Department"	03-Apr-2022 17:00	04-Apr-2022 12:00	04-Apr-2022 12:00

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration I the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Abu Hayat Muhammad Shakiul Azam
Executive Engineer (C.C)
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GD-502

Verdict on Hussaini Dalan bombing today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The judgement against eight members of banned militant outfit JMB over the bomb blasts at Old Dhaka's Hussaini Dalan is set to be delivered today.

Judge Md Majibur Rahman of the Anti-Terrorism Special Tribunal of Dhaka is scheduled to announce the verdict at noon, court sources said.

The accused are Kabir Hossain, Abu Sayeed, Mohammad Arman, Rubel Islam, Chan Miah, Omar Faruk, Ahsan Ullah Mahmud and Shahjalal Miah.

On May 31 of 2017, a Dhaka court framed charges against the eight.

On October 24 of 2015, two people were killed and 115 were injured in the bomb explosions at the Shia Muslim community's headquarters -- Hussaini Dalan.

The next day, Jalal Uddin, a sub-inspector of Chawlkabazar Police Station, filed a case against some unidentified people under the Anti-Terrorism Act.

SCBA election begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day annual election to the 14-member executive committee, including the president and the secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), will begin today.

Sources said the contest is mainly between ruling Awami League-backed Bangabandhu Awami Ainjibi Parishad and pro-BNP Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikya Panel.

A total of 8,623 lawyers will cast their votes in the election, SCBA's superintendent Md Rabiul Hasan told this correspondent.

A seven-member committee, led by Advocate AY Masuazzama, will conduct the polls, according to Rabiul.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY WITH

The Daily Star

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- To oversee, maintain and upgrade existing accounts to ensure ongoing client's satisfaction.
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